FORT LEAVENWORTH

Fort Leavenworth Military Reservation, Leavenworth

Fort Leavenworth has been in continuous occupation by the military since it was first established in 1827 to protect caravans on the Santa Fe Trail. Strategically located on a bluff overlooking the Missouri River, the fort was near the eastern termini of both the Oregon and Santa Fe trails. The fort also played a pivotal role in the Mexican War and in the Civil War, and it became the temporary capita of Kansas Territory in 1854. Many historic structures remain from various periods, and the Frontier Army Museum interprets the site.